

## GERMANY BANS SILVER/MERCURY FILLINGS!

February 1992: The German Ministry of Health banned one form of silver/mercury dental fillings because of adverse health effects in patients exposed to mercury released from amalgam fillings.

The International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT, Orlando Feb 1st '92) reviewed recent research demonstrating the harmful effects of mercury exposure from dental fillings, including kidney damage, placental passage of mercury to unborn babies, and increased resistance to some antibiotics, plus probable relationship of mercury exposure to Alzheimer's and cardiovascular disease.

At the March 2nd Society of Toxicology meeting, Seattle toxicologist presented more research on mercury exposure indicating that pre-natal exposure to mercury vapour can cause learning defects and behavioural problems, and that occupational exposure to mercury vapour from amalgam reduced fertility in dental assistants. This cor-



roborates another recent study indicating harmful effects of mercury on male fertility.

(Source: *World Research New*, 15300 Ventura Blvd. #405, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403; + refer to *Nexus* Vol. 2, #8 June-July 1992)

## DO PRIVATE BANKERS "RULE" THE WORLD?

An interesting sign of the times, (and, no doubt, more ammunition for conspiracy theorists) is the emerging influence of the German Bundesbank on the entire global economy.

I nearly choked on my lunch when the midday ABC TV news commented at length on the fact that financial fate of interest rates in the UK, the EEC, the USA, Japan, Australia etc, depended on what the German Bundesbank decided to do with its own interest rates.

For those who don't read the finan-

cial sections, most West European countries have tied their own interest rates with that of West Germany's.

Recently, short-term interest rates in the USA have fallen to 3.48%. This has resulted in a mass exodus of funds from the US to Germany, where an extra 6% can be picked up by Wall Street investment houses for what is basically "hot" money.

As an economic spokesman for San Francisco's Wells Fargo Bank sums up: "We have lost control of our monetary policy. Everything now hinges on German monetary policy."

The bottom line of all this, is that the rise in the German interest rate has given Germany effective sovereignty over the monetary policy of all other states, including the US.

This might be bad enough if it were the decision of the German government. But it isn't.

It is that of the unelected German central bankers, the board of the Bundesbank, which does not take orders from Chancellor Kohl.

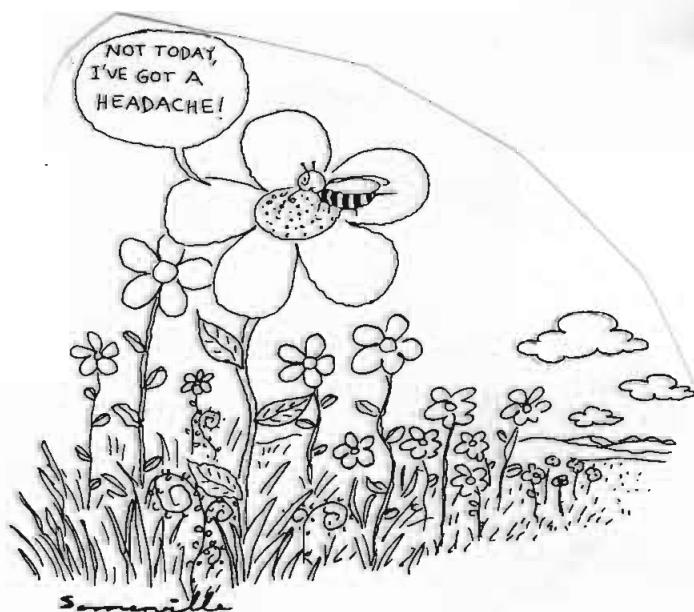
The elected governments of the Germany, the US, the UK, France, Italy, Australia can do nothing about it.

Now only a conspiracy theorist would suspect that the members of the board of a bank make decisions to further the profits of their business, wouldn't they?

## BANKS, BRIBES AND BODIES IN NEW ZEALAND

An Auckland computer broker who bought some excess computer equipment from Citibank has mysteriously died in a car accident recently. With the computer equipment Citibank had inadvertently included around 90 computer discs containing confidential client information (and according to television news, evidence of corruption).

Paul Gordon Edward White, 26, died in a horrific car smash early on Saturday, apparently after celebrating settlement with Citibank over owner-



ship of the computer discs.

Citibank paid White NZ\$16,000 in an out of court settlement for the return of the discs. White celebrated the settlement in the Central Hotel in Auckland where he counted out \$10,000 (he had insisted being paid in cash) of the money in front of hotel staff. He died several hours after this when his car hit a concrete pillar on the Auckland Harbour Bridge approach. What happened between when he left the hotel and the accident is unknown. The suitcase was found in the wreck with all of the money missing.

The plot thickens. On the TV news it was reported that White had received death threats and his apartment had been broken into several times before his death. The break-ins to his flat were said to have been "very professional".

New Zealand Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS) had visited and interviewed him before his death.

The discs were reported (TV3 News) to contain evidence of money laundering and corruption including big business links with government.

White has apparently hidden copies of the discs — the location of these discs is unknown.

The Prime Ministers Department is refusing to comment about the SIS involvement. Winston Peters who also met him at least twice before he died is also refusing to comment at this stage.

Radio New Zealand has reported that the discs also contained evidence of secret payments directly to politicians, and there's media reports from anonymous sources that the car accident was deliberate.

Police Minister John Banks says the allegations raise serious questions and he's asked the police to give them priority investigation.

(Source: Pegasus Computer Networks, Byron Bay, NSW, The New Zealand Herald, September 8th, 10th, 11th 1992)

## SUBLIMINAL SMELLS IMPROVE PROFIT

An undisclosed scent manufactured in the USA, was suffused through a bank of poker machines in a well-

known gambling city, over the course of a weekend. Guess what, these machines took in an average of 45% more money!

A study by the Smell and Taste Treatment and Research Foundation showed that people respond to certain scents by becoming nostalgic, or even child-like, making them more relaxed and possibly willing to make purchases or take risks.

Who nose, maybe this does make scents.

(Source: Sunshine Coast Daily, September 5th 1992)

## AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS MISREPRESENTING SCIENCE PAPERS ON GREENHOUSE?

An ABS book titles Australia's Environment : Issues and Facts has been accused of consistently misrepresenting scientific papers which it used as sources for its chapter on global warming.

Dr Brian O'Brien said the bureau had a reputation for high-quality work, but in this case had published a "fatally flawed book". The bureau had depicted the worst-case scenarios for greenhouse forecasts as contained in now-outdated scientific papers, but had failed to note the qualifications, doubts and uncertainties expressed in them.

As a consequence, the quotations "do not accurately reflect either the context of the papers themselves or the significant caveats that the original authors expressed", Dr. O'Brien said.

(Source: The Weekend Australian, July 25-26, 1992, page 10)

## SCIENCE FRAUDS?

1) William T. Summerlin, a researcher at the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research, coloured white skin grafts black with a

felt-tip pen to fake the results of skin-transplant experiments in mice in the mid Seventies. He was trying to prove that human skin, if maintained in an organ culture for several weeks, becomes universally transplantable with no risk of rejection.

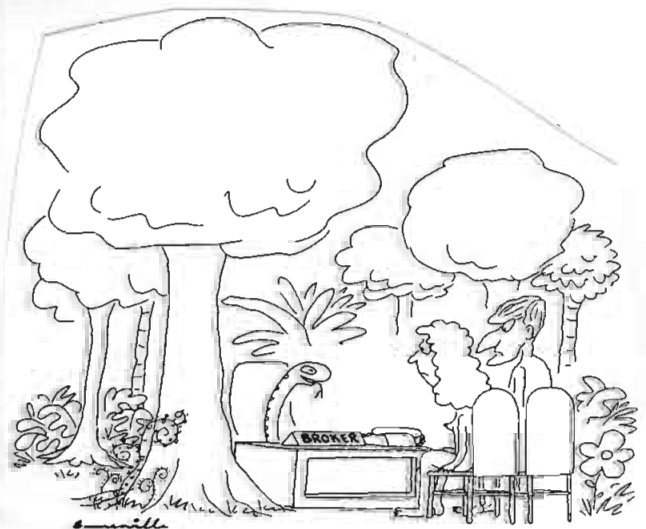
2) John Darsee, a heart researcher at Emory University in Atlanta and at Harvard in the early 1980s, falsified data that formed the basis for about 100 scientific publications on heart disease. The Darsee case was especially troubling because 47 other researchers co-authored his papers and never caught on to the fraud.

3) Sir Cyril Burt, a pioneering British psychologist, deliberately made up more than three decades of data, from the mid 1940s until 1966, to back up his bogus theory on the relationship between heredity and intelligence. He claimed human intelligence was 75% inherited, thereby reinforcing the British class system.

(Source: Omni Magazine, June 1992)

## A FUTURES MARKET IN DEATH

US securities officials are attacking a plan that let AIDS patients get some money from their life insurance by selling their policies to companies that



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resold them to investors.

Patient advocates lauded the plan but State securities administrators say it creates a futures market in death, allowing unscrupulous speculation.

Since 1988, the new industry has bought an estimated US\$100 million in insurance policies from terminally ill patients, offering them anywhere from 50% to 90% of a policy's face value, depending on how long the patient is expected to live.

Two companies even offered investors a "menu" of patients to choose from, with information on the white-cell counts in their blood, their infections and their life expectancy.

(Source: AIDS USA, 21/8/92)

## PHONE TAPPING WHILE ON THE HOOK

Something many have suspected is now out in the open. Your conversations at home, or in the office, can be tapped and taped while the phone is on, or off the hook.

In the Netherlands, police are entitled to tap a suspect's phone if it is off the hook, following a High Court ruling in 1989.

Mr. Rop Gonggrijp, editor of a computer hacker's magazine called *Hack-Tic*, has demonstrated on TV and in

court, that a telephone on the hook can be used as a 'bug'.

Every telephone relies on two circuits connecting it to the exchange: an AC circuit to make the phone ring, and a DC circuit that supplies power for a conversation. When a phone is put on the hook, this separates two copper contacts and breaks the DC circuit because there is no more need for power.

But two pieces of metal a short distance apart will act as a capacitor, which is not an obstacle to a high-frequency AC current. Anybody with the right equipment (Gonggrijp says he spent about \$100-), and access to the telephone line as close to the target phone as possible, can apply such an AC current to the DC circuit and it will pick up the sound signal from the telephone's microphone.

(Source: *New Scientist*, 22nd August 1992)

## OVER ONE THIRD OF WORLD BANK PROJECTS FAIL

More than a third of all aid projects funded by the World Bank fail, according to an internal Bank report leaked to *The Ecologist*. According to the report, the share of "problem projects" has increased from 10% on average over the period 1979-1981 to 17% over the period 1989-1991, whilst the share of "unsuccessful" projects has leapt from 13.1% to 35%, the highest recorded rate of failure in the Bank's history.

The Bank has long been criticised for the environmental and social damage caused by its projects but has always maintained that such damage is outweighed by the economic benefits.

This report shatters that myth. Far

from assisting Third World countries, the Bank is adding to their debt through mismanagement. Borrowing countries have to repay the loans they take out, even if the projects are an economic failure.

From *The Ecologist*, Bath Road, Sturminster, Newton, Dorset, UK, DT10 1BB, Tel: 0258 73476. Fax: 0258 73748.

(Source: *Pegasus Computer Networks*, Byron Bay NSW. Tel: 066 856 789;)

## US BANKING COLLAPSE IN NOVEMBER?

Several snippets of information have been emerging recently discussing a pending bail-out of commercial banks in the USA, including this one.

At the John Henry Conference on the First Amendment, held on 29th April, Professor Larry Goodwyn, former editor of the *Texas Observer*, and now professor of history at Duke University, said, "As big as the Savings & Loans bailout is, the more ominous one looms immediately ahead of us - the bailout of commercial banks. The immediately impending nature of this enormous bailout [which will occur] after the November election - is not common knowledge among the American people, because the commercial bank crisis has not been the focus of sustained journalistic attention."

According to Goodwyn, the reason the public is not getting serious in-depth reporting on the causes and development of these scandals is due to the tension journalists feel as a result of the relationships their owners have to financial corporations.

(Source: *Media Monitor*, June/July '92. Publ: by the Council for Public Media, PO Box 4703, Austin, Texas, 78765 USA)

## ACTIVIST GROUP WINS EXTRAORDINARY LEGAL CASE

In a unique legal case, a French activist group has successfully sued Dassault (Mirage jet aircraft manufacturers) for negligence in providing Mirage F1 aircraft used in chemical bombing of Kurdish villages in Iraq (Halabja).

It appears that French law allows



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shareholders of a company to sue, if that company violates international law.

Damages have not been set, but the judgment may force all French arms firms to be extremely cautious in their arms exports.

(Source: *Pegasus Computer Networks*, *peg.military.index*, 3rd Sept '92)

## THE TV THAT WATCHES ITS VIEWERS

A Japanese company has patented a television that watches its viewers. The company, Kabushikigaisha Shogakuikueisha Kyoikukenkyusho, has filed a British patent application (2 250 117) on a system, designed to log viewing habits for market research.

(Source: *New Scientist*, 29 Aug '92)

## BANKING CONSPIRACY AGAINST MEDIUM TO LARGE BUSINESSES?

This news item comes from Nexus. There is no particular source for this item, except for several thousand bankrupted businesses and many more farmers forced off their land.

Nexus has received many letters and examples of 'bank fraud'. What is chilling is that there is a consistent pattern emerging, as follows.

Mid to late '80s: Banks, particularly the bigger ones, go to financially secure medium to large businesses. Banks BEG these businesses to borrow money, citing asset growth, business expansion etc as good reasons to do so.

A couple of years later: Banks start demanding money back, in many, if not most cases, breaking many verbal and written agreements on the terms of their loan.

Result: Thousands, yes thousands, of medium to large, formerly secure and sound businesses are now gone. Assets seized were sold for ridiculously low prices, most of the time never coming near to repaying the principal amount of the loan.

Shame on the media for its deafening silence on this destruction of our nation's welfare. Shame on the politicians for turning blind eyes to this in each and every electorate. Shame on

the Government and the Opposition for combining to defeat calls in the Senate for a Royal Commission of investigation. Shame on all of us for keeping up our support for these same banks that know no loyalty save that of greed!

## BIG BROTHER & THE HEALTH SYSTEM

Many readers I hope watched the recent Beyond International Special titled "You Have No Secrets". Shown just after the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption

(ICAC) released a damning report detailing how banks, insurance companies, government departments, private investigators and public utilities have traded in confidential information of our personal details. A trade turning over millions of dollars.

Small wonder why many of us trust the current Federal and State proposal to introduce a national health communication network, similar to the Physician's Computer Network as outlined on the Beyond International Special. ❁

## OPINION POLLS AS PSYWAR

The average person doesn't want to get embroiled in a war, especially in a far-off country. This resistance to being dragged into a military adventure is a problem on which the imperialist rulers of the U.S. have been working for a long time. They had to find a way to break down the resistance.

A mass media campaign portraying the target country as cruel, brutal, uncivilised, dangerous and insanely aggressive is indispensable — but not enough. How can the war planners be sure it is working? And how can they convince a big chunk of the population — who, it should be remembered, never thought of going to war in the first place — that everyone is cheering on "our troops" so they too should get with the program, go with the flow?

Enter the public opinion poll.

Ever since the shamelessly racist and lopsided U.S. outrage against the little island of Grenada, the public opinion poll has played a key role in mobilising pro-war sentiment. Every evening for weeks, ABC-TV's "Nightline," a relatively new program at that time, interviewed officials who argued that the U.S. should carry out a "surgical" operation to get rid of the danger posed by these Black revolutionaries and their Cuban backers. And then, after the audience was sufficiently softened up, came the public opinion polls. Not enough support for invasion? Give them another week of lies, turned up full blast.

Since then, the technique has been used for the invasion of Panama, the war in Iraq, and now the threatened intervention in Yugoslavia. Battered popular resistance to war with massive propaganda barrages. Then measure how successful it's been with "public opinion polls." So when the bombs start to fall, it's not the cabal of military men, politicians and the super-rich ruling class that is responsible. No, the "public" was clamouring for war, and the Pentagon just had to go along.

No one should be discouraged or fooled by these polls. They do not register the true sentiment of the masses but only their level of resistance — or lack of it — to a propaganda onslaught. If those who know the score, who understand the cynical nature of what is going on, refuse to be swept along and exercise political courage, if they concentrate their energies on exposing the lies and the propaganda — then the anti-war movement can again take to the streets and prove by its very existence and audacity that the polls lie just as the mass media do.

(Source: *Workers World Service*, 46 W. 21 St., New York, NY 10010. USA)